

HR, JDW, The House Committee- Gonzalez as chairman?

12/17/76

In the about 15 minutes before I have to leave to meet my ride to Washington a brief account of how Bud et al always manage the wrong way.

Ahd on a bad day for me. I'm going there with a full enough schedule beginning with the regular post-phlebotic checkup and measurement for new supports.

When Bud came here on the new committee in September, after he had agreed not to be counsel, he raised the question of Gonzalez. I told him Gonzalez would be the greatest of disasters and a little about why. I did not know then that Gonzalez hates Bud, probably in part because of Bud's support for Downing and in part from tje crazies with whom G. cohabitates.

So, waiting all this time, day before yesterday instead of calling me himself Bud asked im to call me: would I be willing to lay it all out before Tip O'Neill? Sure. I write Bud, too. Then the end of the day yesterday Bud calls because there now is no time as things are. The man on O'Neill's staff has to leave for a 10-day trip to Texas today so he won't have time to see me. Can I write it out for him?

I agree to if he'll rewrite it.

The rushed and unread eight pages took me until close to midnight, the time I got in bed. I was up before 5, dozed off again until 5 and in this short period I have I'm not taking the time to read it or worry about it.

I have the Webermania in it, with illustrations I hope I get back.

There have been two months in which to address this. I expressed the need and my willingness in September. So it waits past the last minute.

Bud did say the whole thing is pretty shakey. I did say I'd like to give it the last push based on what they have done todate. He had no interest in going further on that by phone. I doubt he will today because I am sure his day is heavily booked. I also will have to not do some of what I'd planned.

But imagine if you will a Webermania running the committee atop what the Sprague-Ozer operation has been up to!

Without the addition of Gonzalez' control it was bad enough. As you realize I got my reading early, first by making the proposal that was the minimum requirement of success, then by Sprague's refusal to do it while saying he would and then with the bad conduct of which you know.

If there is no way the prospects are at all promising, Gonzalez would make it even worse, regardless of what kind of person he is on other issues.

Waiting past the last minute was one way of assuring ineffectiveness in opposing Gonzalez.

Hastily,